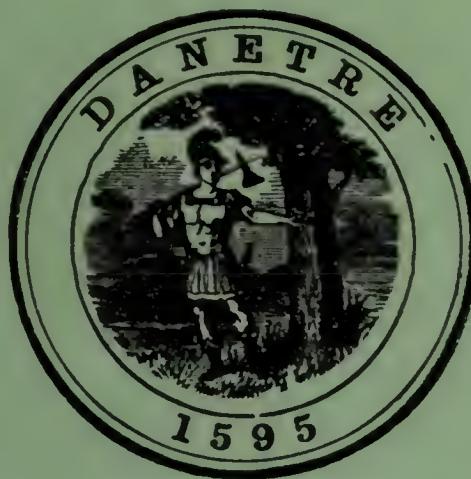


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THE
Borough of Daventry.



REPORT
OF THE
Medical Officer of Health
FOR THE YEAR
1936.

MAY, 1937.

DANETRE PRESS SHEAF STREET DAVENTRY



GLENARIFF HOUSE,
WEST HADDON,
RUGBY.

May 24th, 1937.

TO THE MAYOR
AND
MEMBERS OF THE
DAVENTRY BOROUGH COUNCIL.

GENTLEMEN,

I beg to present for your consideration my Annual Report, dealing with the Sanitary conditions, and the Health of the Borough for the year ending December 31st, 1936.

Area.

The Area of the Borough is 3,633 acres.

Population.

The Population of the Borough, by the Census of 1931, was 3,608 ; Males 1,783, Females 1,825. The population by the Census of 1921 was 3,518, so that during the ten years the Borough increased by 90 persons.

The Registrar General estimates that the population of the Borough in 1936 was 3,684, so I am assuming that these figures are correct for the working out of the statistics of this Annual Report.

Number of Inhabited Houses.

The number of inhabited houses at the end of the year 1936, according to the rate books was 1,056.

Number of Families or Separate Occupiers.

The number of families or separate occupiers, according to the Census of 1931, was 980, by that of 1921 it was 913, showing an increase of 67 in the ten years.

Rateable Value.

The Rateable Value of the Borough is £18,590.

Sum Represented by a Penny Rate.

The sum represented by a Penny Rate is estimated to produce £71.

Birth Rate.

The number of living Births registered in the Town during the year was 56 ; Males 26, Females 30 ; of these, five males and one female were illegitimate.

The Birth Rate for the year is therefore 15.20 per 1,000 living, which is 0.40 above the provisional figures for England and Wales for the year 1936. The following are the particulars for each of the last five years :

| | | | | | | |
|------|-------|----|---------|----|------------|-------|
| 1932 | Males | 31 | Females | 36 | Birth Rate | 18.56 |
| 1933 | " | 21 | " | 25 | " | 12.77 |
| 1934 | " | 25 | " | 35 | " | 16.73 |
| 1935 | " | 23 | " | 27 | " | 13.92 |
| 1936 | " | 26 | " | 30 | " | 15.20 |

One legitimate still-birth was registered in the Borough during the year.

Death Rate.

The number of Deaths registered in the Town was 41 ; Males 23, Females 18, this gives a Death Rate of 11.12 per 1,000 for the year, and 0.98 below the provisional figures for England and Wales for the year 1936.

The following are the particulars for each of the last five years :

| | | | | | | |
|------|-------|----|---------|----|------------|-------|
| 1932 | Males | 24 | Females | 18 | Death Rate | 11.64 |
| 1933 | " | 22 | " | 24 | " | 12.77 |
| 1934 | " | 25 | " | 24 | " | 13.66 |
| 1935 | " | 14 | " | 22 | " | 10.02 |
| 1936 | " | 23 | " | 18 | " | 11.12 |

Infant Mortality.

There was one death of a legitimate infant under one year. The following are the particulars for each of the last five years :

| | | | |
|------|-----|-------|-------------------|
| 1932 | ... | 89.55 | per 1,000 births. |
| 1933 | ... | 21.73 | " " |
| 1934 | ... | 83.33 | " " |
| 1935 | ... | 00.00 | " " |
| 1936 | ... | 17.85 | " " |

Pulmonary Tuberculosis and Respiratory Diseases.

The Death Rate from Pulmonary Tuberculosis was nil ; and from Respiratory Diseases it was 0.80 per 1,000.

The following are the particulars for each of the last five years :

| | | | | |
|------|------------------------|------|----------------------|------|
| 1932 | Pulmonary Tuberculosis | 0.55 | Respiratory Diseases | 0.55 |
| 1933 | " | 0.27 | " | 1.11 |
| 1934 | " | 0.00 | " | 1.39 |
| 1935 | " | 0.55 | " | 0.27 |
| 1936 | " | 0.00 | " | 0.80 |

Mortality.

The Mortality from different causes during the year 1936, according to the return made to me by the Registrar General, was as follows :

| | | Males | Females |
|----------------------------|-----|-------|---------|
| Diphtheria | ... | 1 | 1 |
| Influenza | ... | 0 | 1 |
| Cancer | ... | 1 | 5 |
| Cerebral Haemorrhage | ... | 1 | 2 |
| Heart Disease | ... | 6 | 5 |
| Other Circulatory Diseases | ... | 1 | 0 |
| Pneumonia | ... | 1 | 1 |
| Other Respiratory Diseases | ... | 0 | 1 |
| Peptic Ulcer | ... | 1 | 0 |
| Other Digestion Diseases | ... | 1 | 0 |
| Nephritis | ... | 3 | 0 |
| Senility | ... | 0 | 1 |
| Violence | ... | 3 | 0 |
| Other Defined Diseases | ... | 4 | 1 |
| | | — | — |
| Total | | 23 | 18 |

The figures and details on which these statistics are framed were not received by me from the Registrar General per the County M.O.H., till May 21st, 1937, and the Report has now to be printed ; it is therefore utterly impossible for the Ministry of Health to receive the six copies by the middle of May as requested.

Nursing.

There is a Child Welfare in the Town, this and the Health Visiting are under the supervision of the County Council. The District Nursing arrangements which are maintained by voluntary contributions are managed by a Local Committee ; this Committee is affiliated to the Northampton County Nursing Association.

Infectious Sickness.

During the year 1936, fourteen cases of Infectious Sickness were notified to me as occurring in the Borough, a decrease of six cases as compared with the previous year. The following are the particulars of all the cases which have been reported to me during the past five years.

| | | 1932 | 1933 | 1934 | 1935 | 1936 |
|------------------------|-----|------|------|------|------|------|
| Scarlet Fever | ... | 8 | 3 | 12 | 9 | 5 |
| Diphtheria | ... | 2 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 2 |
| Erysipelas | ... | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| Pulmonary Tuberculosis | | 3 | 2 | 1 | 4 | 2 |
| Other Tuberculosis | ... | 1 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 |
| Pneumonia | ... | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 3 |
| Chicken Pox | ... | 2 | 0 | 4 | 0 | 0 |
| Puerperal Fever | ... | 0 | 0 | 1 | 2 | 0 |
| Puerperal Pyrexia | ... | 0 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 1 |
| | | — | — | — | — | — |
| | | 16 | 6 | 19 | 20 | 14 |

There was a decrease of four in the number of Scarlet Fever cases as compared with the year 1935, they were all of a mild type, and gave no cause for anxiety, they were all moved to the Staverton Isolation Hospital and recovered.

The two cases of Diphtheria were from one family, both were moved to Staverton, they were most seriously ill from admission, and notwithstanding that everything possible was done for the children, both cases ended fatally ; every attention was paid to the home, and fortunately no further case occurred.

No case of Small Pox, Enteric Fever, nor Ophthalmia Neonatorum occurred in the Borough during the year.

Tuberculosis.

The following are the particulars of the two cases notified :

One Pulmonary, a male, aged 22
 One Pulmonary, a male, aged 43
 Other Forms, nil.

Deaths (Tuberculosis)

No deaths from this disease occurred in the Borough.

The notification of Tuberculosis in the Town is efficient, and no action or proceedings were necessary for wilful neglect. There is no evidence of excessive incidence of, or mortality from this disease in any particular part of the Borough. Special attention is always paid to Tubercular cases, not only on behalf of the sufferers themselves, but also for the sake of other members of the families.

Isolation Hospital.

The arrangement with the Daventry Rural District Council for the reception of patients into their Isolation Hospital at Staverton continues quite satisfactory. During the twelve months, five Scarlet Fever patients were sent in and all recovered, two Diphtheria cases were also sent in, and as I have already stated both the patients unfortunately died. During the last five years the

following cases were removed from the Borough to the Staverton Isolation Hospital for treatment.

| | 1932 | 1933 | 1934 | 1935 | 1936 |
|---------------|------|------|------|------|------|
| Scarlet Fever | 7 | 3 | 11 | 9 | 5 |
| Diphtheria | 2 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 2 |

During the next year or two there will be most likely a change in the management of the Isolation Hospital by the formation of a Joint Hospital Board to serve two Boroughs, and four Rural District Councils in the south-west part of Northamptonshire, on this Board each of these Councils will appoint a certain number of representatives to manage the Hospital, and the expenses will be divided over the whole area, this plan has the support of the present owners of the Hospital--The Daventry Rural District Council.

Since the agreement with the Warwick Joint Hospital Board terminated no arrangement has been made for the treatment of a Small Pox case should it occur. A Hospital for the treatment of this disease will, sometime in the future be built in the County, perhaps in the meantime it might be possible to make arrangements at the Holeot Hospital in the Brixworth Rural District.

For non-infectious sickness the Borough is within easy distance of the General Hospital, Northampton, or the Hospital of St. Cross, in Rugby, and for Tuberculosis cases there is the Sanatorium at Rushden under the Northamptonshire County Council.

The rooms from which any infectious persons are removed are always disinfected, and after death in certain diseases, I always get the Sanitary Inspector to disinfect what is necessary.

No special arrangements have been made for Bacteriological examinations, and I hardly think this is necessary, as when required these can be carried out by the Pathologist at the General Hospital in Northampton.

Ambulance.

The Borough has its own Ambulance for the removal of serious illness, or accidents, to one of the General Hospitals in Northampton or Rugby, and for the removal of infectious cases, arrangements have been made with the Daventry Rural District Council for the use of the Fever Ambulance kept at the Staverton Isolation Hospital.

Schools.

These are all in a very satisfactory state, and at no time during the year had I to advise the closing of a school on account of infectious illness.

Vaccination.

Little Vaccination has been done in the Borough during the twelve months, and none under the Public Health (Small Pox Prevention) Regulations, 1917.

Industry.

The chief trade of the Town is Boot and Shoe Manufacturing ; this gives employment to many hundreds ; and doubtless the British Broadcasting Corporation's Empire Transmitting Stations on Borough Hill also find some work for the inhabitants. There is also a large number of Agricultural Labourers working in the surrounding neighbourhood, who reside in the Town. There has been some unemployment during the year, and there were also a number of others in the Borough who were on short time, but on the whole I do not think there has been so much unemployment as in the preceding years.

Houses.

The following are the general details regarding the Housing question for the year 1936, as asked for by the Ministry of Health :

1. *Inspection of Dwelling Houses during the year :—*

| | |
|---|-----|
| (1) (a) Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects under (Public Health or Housing Acts | 342 |
| (b) Number of inspections made for the purpose ... | 393 |
| (2) (a) Number of dwelling-houses (including under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925 | 132 |
| (b) Number of inspections made for the purpose ... | 12 |
| (3) Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation | 20 |
| (4) Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation | 51 |

2. *Remedy of defects during the year without Service of formal Notices :—*

| | |
|---|----|
| Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officers | 45 |
|---|----|

3. *Action under Statutory Powers during the year :—*

| | |
|---|-----|
| A— Proceedings under Section 17, 18 and 23 of the Housing Act, 1930 | Nil |
|---|-----|

| | | | |
|-----|--|-----|-----|
| (1) | Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs | ... | Nil |
| (2) | Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices | ... | ... |
| (a) | By Owners | ... | Nil |
| (b) | By Local Authority in default of Owners | ... | Nil |
| B— | Proceedings under Public Health Acts : | | |
| (1) | Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied | ... | 51 |
| (2) | Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices :— | | |
| (a) | By Owners | ... | 45 |
| (b) | By Local Authority in default of Owners | ... | Nil |
| C— | Proceedings under Sections 19 and 21 of the Housing Act, 1930 : | | |
| (1) | Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made | ... | Nil |
| (2) | Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders | ... | Nil |
| D— | Proceedings under Section 20 of the Housing Act, 1930 : | | |
| (1) | Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made | ... | Nil |
| (2) | Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, tenements or room having been rendered fit | ... | Nil |

Housing Act, 1935—Overcrowding.

| | | | | | | | |
|---|-------|--|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| A | (i) | Number of dwellings overcrowded at the end of the year 1936 | ... | ... | ... | ... | 16 |
| | (ii) | Number of families dwelling therein | ... | ... | ... | ... | 16 |
| | (iii) | Number of persons dwelling therein | ... | ... | ... | ... | 119 |
| B | | Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year | ... | ... | ... | ... | 20 |
| C | (i) | Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year | ... | ... | ... | ... | 4 |
| | (ii) | Number of persons concerned in such cases | ... | ... | ... | ... | 26 |

| | | | | | | | |
|---|--|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| D | Particulars of any cases in which dwelling-houses have again become overcrowded after the Local Authority have taken steps for the abatement of overcrowding | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | Nil |
| E | Any other particulars with respect to overcrowding conditions upon which the Medical Officer of Health may consider it desirable to report | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | Nil |

Your Sanitary Inspector and myself, both together and separately, made many inspections of houses for Slum Clearance under the Housing Act of 1930. On October 2nd an Inspector from the Ministry of Health held an Inquiry into the Clearance Orders made by your Council regarding sixteen houses situated in New Street, Mount Pleasant, and in two Courts off Abbey Street; later on in the year your Council was informed that all these Orders had been confirmed by the Ministry.

The following are the number of houses already ordered for demolition or otherwise dealt with.

| | | |
|-----------------------------|-----|-----------|
| First Year's Plan | ... | 36 Houses |
| Dealt with under Section 19 | 2 | Houses |
| Second Year's Plan | .. | 27 Houses |
| Dealt with under Section 19 | 1 | House |
| Third Year's Plan | ... | 16 Houses |
| Dealt with under Section 19 | + | Houses |

I think the best way to deal with some of the remaining houses is to press forward their re-conditioning, and if the owners will not carry out the needful repairs at once, then schedule them for demolition, as a result, the Ministry will hold an Inquiry and they will decide the matter.

I see on looking over the County Medical Officer of Health's Report on the houses in Daventry, published in 1933, he condemned 69 houses for demolition, and your Council have already well exceeded this number.

The Water Supply of the houses is from the Town Supply and is quite accessible in nearly all the cases; the sanitary accommodation is fairly satisfactory, and the drainage passes into the sewers of the Town; refuse and ashes are collected at regular intervals.

Twenty-three new houses have been completed during the year, and many more are in course of being built; the following are the number that have been erected during the last six years.

| | | |
|---------|-----|----|
| In 1931 | ... | 12 |
| In 1932 | ... | 16 |
| In 1933 | ... | 18 |
| In 1934 | ... | 8 |
| In 1935 | ... | 32 |
| In 1936 | ... | 23 |

Eleven of these latter houses were built by private enterprise.

Overcrowding.

The Housing Act, 1935, involved a large amount of work regarding any overcrowding in the Town, and I think that the inspection has turned out as I expected, and that the Town compares favourably with others of the same size.

Preliminary cards were filled up regarding 917 houses, of these 20 were over crowded, and in 17 cases if the present family should increase they will be in a like condition.

Of the 20 over crowded houses four were abated before the end of the year, and a few more since. With regard to the remainder I would strongly urge the Council to take early steps to overcome the trouble before the end of the present year.

Drainage and Sewerage.

The drainage of the Town is quite satisfactory; all the sewage being carried to the Sewage Works and Farm for treatment. No river pollution can take place as there are only two small brooks near the Town, and these find their way into the Reservoir belonging to the Grand Union Canal.

The following is work done under this head during the last three years :

| | | 1934 | 1935 | 1936 |
|-----------------------------|-----|------|------|------|
| New Drains Constructed | ... | 12 | 39 | 25 |
| Drains Repaired | ... | 9 | 11 | 13 |
| Drains Re-laid | ... | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Drains Unblocked or Cleaned | | 8 | 6 | 15 |
| Drains Examined and Tested | | 29 | 74 | 42 |
| Manholes Built | ... | 10 | 33 | 31 |

Closet Accommodation.

There are water closets for all the houses except a few solitary ones outside the Town, some of these have no flushing apparatus, to this insanitary arrangement I have on many occasions referred, and urged that for the health of the Town it should be altered. Now with the slum clearance, and already over 80 houses condemned for demolition, there will be a great improvement in this matter, and I feel certain it will tend to improve the health of Daventry. The following is the work carried out under this head during the last three years.

| | | 1934 | 1935 | 1936 |
|--|-----|------|------|------|
| Water-closets—Limewashed | ... | 53 | 72 | 87 |
| Water-closets—New Flushing Apparatus Fixed | 12 | 34 | 37 | |
| Water-closets—Flushing Apparatus Repaired | 6 | 9 | 17 | |
| Water-closets—New Pans Fixed | 13 | 9 | 15 | |
| Water-closets—Unblocked and Repairs | 5 | 6 | 21 | |
| Water-closets—Built | ... | 12 | 39 | 37 |

Scavenging.

The Scavenging of the Town is carried out by the Corporation; all the house refuse and ashes are collected once a week and removed to an old brickyard off the London Road.

On November 4th, a Public Inquiry was held by an Inspector of the Ministry of Health on an application of your Council to borrow the sum of £200 for the purchase of four acres of land, for purposes of refuse disposal, the Inspector on visiting the field did not thoroughly approve of it, and later on in the year it was arranged to continue at the old site off the London Road.

Common Lodging Houses.

There are two Common Lodging Houses in the Borough, these are frequently visited, they are both kept clean and are well conducted.

Sanitary Work.

A considerable amount of Sanitary Work was carried out in various parts of the Town. The following table gives some particulars of the work done during the year, and for comparison, that done in the previous two years:—

| | | 1934 | 1935 | 1936 |
|--|-----|------|------|------|
| Complaints Received | ... | ... | 11 | 13 |
| Nuisances Detected | ... | ... | 55 | 43 |
| Nuisances Abated | ... | ... | 48 | 43 |
| Houses and Premises Inspected | ... | 321 | 372 | 342 |
| Houses and Premises Re-inspected | ... | 55 | 43 | 51 |
| Houses and Premises Repaired | ... | 48 | 43 | 45 |
| Notices Issued (Preliminary) | ... | 55 | 43 | 51 |
| Notices Issued (Statutory) | ... | 11 | 19 | 13 |
| Notices Issued (Statutory) under 1919 Act | ... | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Notices Still Outstanding | ... | 7 | 0 | 6 |
| Notices Complied with under Order of the Magistrates | ... | ... | 0 | 0 |

Water Supply.

The Water Supply of the Town is chiefly from the Corporation's own property at Dodford, where there is a deep spring in the middle lias, this is a pure supply, though somewhat hard. There have not been the difficulties over the supply as in former years, the increased rainfall has helped matters considerably, and the additional works put in during 1934 have also been of great assistance, I have heard little complaints of any shortage.

On July 29th, a Public Inquiry was held by an Inspector of the Ministry of Health on an application of your Council to borrow the sum of £1,920 to cover the cost of the improvements in the Water Supply for the Town.

There is also a Private Supply of Water from Borough Hill, this water is satisfactory and pure; a few of the outlying houses outside the Town are supplied by wells on their own premises. The following table gives a few details :

| | | | |
|--|-----|-----|------|
| Houses supplied by the Corporation | ... | ... | 1000 |
| New connections made during the year | ... | ... | 24 |
| Houses supplied by the Water Company (about) | | | 78 |
| Houses supplied by Wells and Pumps (about) | ... | | 14 |

Food.

The Food Supply of the Town is good, and the premises where it is stored or exposed for sale, satisfactory. No case of food poisoning was reported in the Borough during the year.

The following was found to be unfit for food; it was voluntarily surrendered and destroyed.

| | | | |
|--------|-----|-----|------------|
| Beef | ... | ... | 6,750 lbs. |
| Pork | ... | ... | 620 lbs. |
| Mutton | ... | ... | 60 lbs. |
| Fish | ... | ... | 134 lbs. |

Slaughter Houses.

There are four registered Slaughter Houses in the Borough, also a licensed one, as well as the Public Slaughter House under the Council. All these have been frequently visited, and no complaints have been received; they have been limewashed at the required times. The Butchers are using every endeavour to carry out the Regulations which came into force on January 1st, 1925.

| | 1920 | 1925 | 1926 |
|------------|------|------|------|
| Registered | ... | 4 | 4 |
| Licensed | ... | 0 | 1 |
| | — | — | — |
| | 4 | 5 | 5 |

There has been no change since the year 1926.

Milk Supply.

All the Dairies, Milkshops and Cowsheds in the Borough have been kept under careful supervision during the year, and they have been frequently visited and generally found to be in a satisfactory condition. There are eighteen on the register; during the year twenty-four samples of milk were taken for Bacteriological examination, and the following reports were made on them: Fourteen were good, nine were moderate, and one bad. I did not hear of any milk shortage during the year. The Milk and Dairies Order, 1926, has involved a closer watch and generally a stricter enforcement of all the conditions of dairying. In all cases of the more serious forms of infectious disease, a careful enquiry and inspection of the Milk Supply is always made. No tubercular milking cows came under notice during the year.

Petrol Stores.

There are fifteen Petrol Stores in the Borough, a decrease of three during the year ; these stores are well looked after and every possible care is taken.

Factory and Workshop Act.

The Factory and Workshop Act, 1901, is carried out in the Town in a satisfactory manner ; inspections were frequently made during the year, and only one case of want of cleanliness was discovered, and on attention being drawn to this matter it was soon put right. There is no underground bakehouse in the Borough, and care has been taken to see that Bakers keep their bakehouses in a properly clean state, and that they are white-washed at the regular periods.

Staff.

The Public Health Officers of the Council are :

- G. E. FOSTER, Clerk to the Borough Council.
- A. R. DARLEY, Medical Officer of Health.
- J. B. WILLIAMS, Consulting Surveyor.
- A. J. PAXMAN, Surveyor.
- F. BAILEY, Sanitary Inspector.

All these, as one would expect, in a small Town like Daventry, are part time officers, with the exception of Mr. A. J. Paxman, who gives his whole time to the work.

I append the Annual Report of the Sanitary Inspector in accordance with Article XX. (16) of the Local Government Board's General Order of 13th December, 1910.

I beg to remain, Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

ALFRED R. DARLEY, M.D.,

Medical Officer of Health,

Borough of Daventry.

TO THE
DAVENTRY TOWN COUNCIL.

GENTLEMEN,

In submitting for your consideration my Annual Report, for the year ending 31st December, 1936, I beg to report as follows :

W.C.'s built, 37 ; W.C.'s re-lime-washed, 87 ; Unblocked 21 ; New Pans fixed, 15 ; Flushers repaired, 17 ; New Flushers fixed 37.

Drains.--Constructed, 25 ; Repaired, 13 ; Cleared, 15 ; Examined and Tested, 42 ; Septic Tanks built, 1.

Infectious Diseases (Notification) Act, 1889.—

During the year 14 cases of Infectious Disease were reported : Scarlet Fever 5, Diphtheria 2, Pulmonary Tuberculosis 2, Pneumonia 3, Erysipelas 1, Puerperal Pyrexia 1. The cases of Scarlet Fever and Diphtheria were removed to Staverton Hospital, the homes disinfected, soap and liquid disinfectant being supplied in each case. Four of the cases of Scarlet Fever consisted of a mother and three small children. The two cases of Diphtheria were twin children eight years of age, both unfortunately died. Four beds were destroyed and compensation paid to the owners after deaths from Infectious Disease.

Slaughter Houses and Butchers' Shops.

There are four registered, one licenced and the Public Slaughterhouse in use in the Town. This is the same number as for several years past. One business changed hands during the year, and the new owner is now slaughtering on six days each week ; some of the animals slaughtered in the town, are afterwards taken to Banbury or Leamington for sale.

Over 7,000 animals were slaughtered during the year, the majority being of excellent quality. All the Shops have modern Cold Storage Plants, and no unsound meat was found being offered for sale.

Dairies, Cowsheds and Milk Shops.

These are 18 names on the register, two less than last year. Four purveyors of milk have gone out of business, and two new shops have been registered to sell milk in bottles.

The Dairies and Cowsheds have been visited at frequent intervals and very little cause for complaint has been found, most of them having been kept in a cleanly condition.

Twenty-four samples of milk were taken and forwarded to the County Laboratory for Bacteriological Examination. Fourteen were reported as good, nine as moderate and one as bad. Of the twelve samples sent in to the end of April eleven were returned as good and one as moderate ; of the twelve sent in between June and December three were good, eight moderate and one bad. This is most disappointing and compares unfavourably with any previous year.

The reports received during the five years samples have been submitted are as follows :

| Year | Number of Samples | Designation | | | Bad |
|------|----------------------|-------------|-------|----------|-----|
| | | Good | Clean | Moderate | |
| 1932 | 15 | 11 | — | 3 | 1 |
| 1933 | 12 | 4 | 4 | 3 | 1 |
| 1934 | 20 | 19 | — | 1 | — |
| 1935 | 20 | 19 | — | 1 | — |
| 1936 | 24 | 14 | — | 9 | 1 |

Unsound Meat and Other Foods.

During the year I have visited the Slaughter Houses on most days : Butchers, Bakers and Fish Shops have been visited at frequent intervals. They were generally found in a satisfactory state. The following quantities of Meat and Fish were found to be unfit for food and were voluntarily surrendered and destroyed :

| | |
|--------|------------|
| Beef | 6,750 lbs. |
| Pork | 620 lbs. |
| Mutton | 60 lbs. |
| Fish | 134 lbs. |
| | — |
| Total | 7,564 lbs. |

No case of food poisoning was reported during the year.

Petrol Stores.

The number of Petrol Stores in the Town is now 15. Practically all the Petrol is stored in underground steel tanks, and no cause for complaint was found during the year.

Nuisances.

I have paid frequent visits to all parts of the Town during the year. I have received 21 complaints and found 51 cases requiring attention. Preliminary notices were served in each case and it was found necessary later to serve 13 Statutory Notices. Seven of these were complied with and six were outstanding at the end of the year.

House Inspection.

During the year, I accompanied the M.O.H. on several occasions when he was making his inspections of the cottages in the Town. I have also periodically visited all Courts and small Cottages. Previous to the visit of the Ministry of Health Inspector, I inspected and measured up the cottages which the Council had included in its Slum Clearance Scheme for the year.

As required by the Housing Act, 1935, a survey was made early in the year to ascertain how many houses in the Town were overcrowded. At the preliminary enumeration, 917 houses were visited, and (a) cards were filled in respecting them. Twenty of these were found to be definitely overcrowded, and they were occupied by 103 Adults and 42 Children. In addition, there were 17 houses filled to capacity, and several others which are on the border line, and many of which are likely to become overcrowded in the future, as the children arrive at adult age. All overcrowded houses, those filled to capacity and many border line cases were measured up and entered on Form B. Four overcrowded cases, affecting 22 adults and four children were relieved during the year, and others will be dealt with in the near future. Of the 917 houses were visited.

| 78 Houses were occupied by | | | 1 | person |
|----------------------------|---|---|-----------------|--------|
| 2 | " | " | 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ | " |
| 258 | " | " | 2 | " |
| 82 | " | " | 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ | " |
| 203 | " | " | 3 | " |
| 50 | " | " | 3 $\frac{1}{2}$ | " |
| 111 | " | " | 4 | " |
| 33 | " | " | 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ | " |
| 36 | " | " | 5 | " |
| 14 | " | " | 5 $\frac{1}{2}$ | " |
| 14 | " | " | 6 | " |
| 5 | " | " | 6 $\frac{1}{2}$ | " |
| 14 | " | " | 7 | " |
| 6 | " | " | 7 $\frac{1}{2}$ | " |
| 5 | " | " | 8 | " |
| 3 | " | " | 8 $\frac{1}{2}$ | " |
| 2 | " | " | 9 | " |
| 1 | " | " | 10 | " |

A child under ten years of age is counted as half an adult, thus the house shown to be occupied by 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ persons, was occupied by one adult and one child under ten years of age, and the house shown to be occupied by ten persons was actually occupied by eight adults and four children aged 7 years, 5 years, 3 years and 2 years.

Factories and Workshops.

I have visited the Factories, Workshops and Workplaces at frequent intervals, with the exception of one Bakehouse which was not limewashed at the correct time, very little cause for complaint was found.

Common Lodging Houses.

There are two Common Lodging Houses in the Town. Both have been kept in a clean and satisfactory condition, and no cause for complaint has been found.

Sanitary Dust Bins.

During the year, 179 Notices were served on the owners of property in the Town, requiring them to supply their tenants with a Dustbin provided with a lid, and stating that a Sanitary Dustbin would meet the requirements. Most of these notices were complied with, and in the few instances where the Landlord did not comply, the Council have supplied the bins and charged to the landlord's account. It is hoped that by early in the year 1937 the whole of the houses in the Town will be provided with sanitary bins or boxes with lids.

Rat Week.

The same procedure was followed during Rat Week as in previous years. Posters were exhibited in Shops, Clubs, Public Houses, etc., and copies of the posters were sent to landowners and other persons having premises likely to be infested with rats.

The local Chemists made a special display of Rat Poisons, etc. The Sewage Farm, Tip and Council Premises were dressed with poison. Poison was supplied to anyone who asked for it.

It was necessary during the year to serve one preliminary notice requiring the destruction of Rats on premises where they were doing considerable damage to an adjoining owner.

The Housing Act, 1935.

Several Landlords have applied for the information referring to the capacity of their houses, which, under Section 6 of the above Act, it is necessary to enter in each rent book. It is hoped to commence the measurement of the houses early in 1937.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

FRANK BAILEY,

*Sanitary Inspector,
Borough of Daventry.*

TABLE I.
BOROUGH OF DAVENTRY.
INSPECTION OF FACTORIES, WORKSHOPS AND WORKPLACES.

| Premises (1) | Number of | | |
|-----------------------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|--------------------------------|
| | Inspections. (2) | Written Notices (3) | Occupiers prosecuted (4) |
| Factories | 21 | 0 | 0 |
| (Including Factory Laundries) | | | |
| Workshops | 87 | 0 | 0 |
| (Including Workshop Laundries) | | | |
| Workplaces | 16 | 0 | 0 |
| (Other than Outworkers' premises) | | | |
| Total .. | 124 | 0 | 0 |

TABLE II.
BOROUGH OF DAVENTRY.
DEFECTS FOUND IN FACTORIES, WORKSHOPS AND WORKPLACES.

| Particulars (1) | Number of Defects | | | Number of offences in respect to which Prose- cutions were instituted (5) |
|---|-------------------|-----------------|---|---|
| | Found (2) | Remedied (3) | Referred to H.M. Inspector (4) | |
| <i>Nuisances under the Public Health Acts—*</i> | | | | |
| Want of cleanliness | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| Want of ventilation | | | | |
| Overcrowding | | | | |
| Want of Drainage of floors .. | | | | |
| Other nuisances | | | | |
| Sanitary } insufficient | | | | |
| accom- } unsuitable or defective modation } not separate for sexes | | | | |
| <i>Offences under the Factory and Workshop Acts:</i> | | | | |
| Illegal occupation of under- ground bakehouse (s. 101) .. | | | | |
| Other offences | | | | |
| (Excluding offences relating to outwork and offences under the Sections mentioned in the Schedule to the Ministry of Health (Factories and Workshops Transfer of Powers) Order 1921). | | | | |
| Total .. | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 |

* Including those specified in sections 2, 3, 7 and 8 of the Factory and Workshop Act, 1901, as remediable under the Public Health Acts.

